

REMARKS

Claims 54-66 are pending. The Office Action, mailed September 26, 2001, noted an improper priority claim, and rejected Claims 54-66 under 35 U.S.C. § 102. By way of this amendment, applicant has amended the priority claim, amended Claims 58 and 59, cancelled Claims 55-57 and 60-66, and submitted a 131 Affidavit.

PRIORITY CLAIM

The Office Action indicated in paragraph 2 that the priority claim is improper for receiving the benefit of earlier filed applications. The applicant has amended the priority claim to place it in proper condition for receiving the benefit of the prior applications.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 54-66 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

The Office Action rejected Claims 54-66 as being anticipated by Fujimoto, Patent No. 5,339,821.

Applicant notes that the effective U.S. filing date of Fujimoto is October 26, 1992. Applicant hereby submits the attached 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 Affidavit declaring that they exhibited conception of the invention with respect to pending Claims 54, 58, and 59 prior to the effective date of Fujimoto.

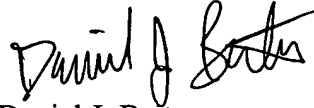
The Applicant has cancelled Claims 55-57 and 60-66. Applicant submits that the Claims 54, 58, and 59 are fully supported by the documents attested to in the Affidavit, see pg. 8, line 12 – pg. 10, line 16.

CONCLUSION

The Applicant believes the application is now in condition for allowance. If the examiner has questions, the examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's attorney below.

Respectfully submitted,

BLACK LOWE & GRAHAM^{PLLC}



Daniel J. Beitey

Registration No. 48,626

Direct Dial: 206.287.0066

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this communication is being deposited with the United States Postal Service via Express Mail No. EL476257395US under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated below addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, **BOX AMENDMENTS**, Washington D.C. 20231.

2/25/02
Date of Deposit


Michelle J. Funston

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Specification:

On page 1, lines 3-12

This is a continuing application claiming the priority of [the following applications:]

[(1)] Application Serial No. 09/271,217, filed March 17, 1999, now Patent No. 6,168,563, which is a continuation-in-part of Application Serial No. 08/481,925, filed June 7, 1995, now Patent No. 5,899,855, which is a FWC of application Serial No. 08/233,397, filed April 26, 1994 (now abandoned), which in turn is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 07/977,323, filed November 17, 1992 (which has since issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,307,263)[; and (2)]. Also, this application is a continuation-in-part of Application Serial No. 08/946, 341, filed October 7, 1997, now Patent No. 5,997,476, which is a continuation-in-part of 08/847,009, filed April 30, 1997, now Patent No. 5,897,493, which claims priority from provisional application Ser. No. 60/041,746 filed March 28, 1997 and from provisional application Ser. No. 60/041,751 filed March 28, 1997; all of which are incorporated herein by reference.

In the Claims:

58. (Amended) The system according to Claim 54, wherein said interrogation means further comprises at least one of a keyboard, and a plurality of buttons [and a microphone].

59. (Amended) The system according to Claim 54, wherein said communication means comprises at least one of a modem, and a serial interface[, a LAN connection and a wireless transmitter].